



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING




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SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

December 18, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Presentation on School Improvement Website

In November 2006, the Department of Education entered into a collaborative partnership with the North Central Association and its parent organization AdvancED. As a result of the agreement, several initiatives have been undertaken to reduce duplication of effort for Michigan's schools and to move the state's schools to a system that will support continuous school improvement. The tools are based on the School Improvement Framework and have been field tested prior to moving them into the electronic format.

As a result of this collaboration, there are several online tools that allow schools and districts to complete their Education YES! reports, their comprehensive needs assessments, and school improvement plans knowing that they are fulfilling state, federal, and North Central Association requirements. This frees the schools and districts to focus on improving student learning.

The process of filing the Education YES! report also leads schools to an online school improvement planning tool. When used in combination, the comprehensive needs assessment and school improvement planning tool fulfill most state and federal requirements for grants such as Title IA including schoolwide and targeted assistance, migrant, English language learners, safe and drug free schools, and homeless education. Knowing that these requirements have been built into the system allows school staff to focus their efforts on defining the initiatives necessary to improving student achievement.

Additionally, the website provides similar tools for districts. Utilizing information from the schools' reports, a district can complete its needs assessment and a district improvement plan.

Department staff and representatives from the North Central Association and AdvancED will demonstrate key components of this new online tool for members of the State Board of Education.

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